

CHRYSANTHEMUM PLANT NAMED 'GEDI TWO KIS'

LATIN NAME OF THE GENUS AND SPECIES

Chrysanthemum morifolium

VARIETY DENOMINATION

'GEDI TWO KIS'

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar of decorative-type Chrysanthemum plant, herein after referred to by the cultivar name 'GEDI TWO KIS.' The new cultivar is a product of hybridization of a female parent Chrysanthemum plant variety 'Red Elani' (undistributed in the United States, origin unknown) and a male parent Chrysanthemum plant variety 'GEDI ORO 8' (U.S. Plant Patent No. 11,569). The new cultivar was discovered and selected by Dirk Pieters in Staden, Belgium, in October, 2000.

Asexual reproduction of the new cultivar by vegetative cuttings and tissue culture was performed in Staden, Belgium and in Oxnard, California, and has shown that the unique features of this cultivar are stable and reproduced true to type on successive generations.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The cultivar 'GEDI TWO KIS' has not been observed under all possible environmental conditions. The phenotype may vary somewhat with variations in environment such as temperature, daylength, and light intensity, without, however, any variance in genotype.

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and are determined to be the unique characteristics of 'GEDI TWO KIS.' These characteristics in combination distinguish 'GEDI TWO KIS' as a new and distinct Chrysanthemum cultivar:

1. Light bronze colored inflorescence.
2. Decorative-type inflorescence.
3. Naturally blooms in mid September.
4. Plant form is exceptionally round.
5. Plant has an extremely flexible habit.

Plants of the new cultivar are similar to plants of the female parent variety, 'Red Elani' in most horticultural characteristics. However, plants of the new cultivar have light bronze ray florets as compared to red ray florets of 'Red Elani.' Additionally, plants of the new cultivar have almost twice as many ray florets as 'Red Elani.' Further, the new variety is taller than 'Red Elani.'

Plants of the new cultivar are similar to plants of the male parent variety, 'GEDI ORO 8' in most horticultural characteristics, however the inflorescence of the new cultivar has more ray florets and less disc florets than plants of the male parent variety. The ray florets of the new variety are a lighter bronze in color, whereas the ray florets of the male parent variety, 'GEDI ORO 8' are darker bronze in color. Additionally, the new variety blooms approximately two weeks earlier than the male parent variety.

The new cultivar is similar to the commercial variety 'GEDI TWO SAP' (U.S. Plant Patent No. 13,731) in plant shape and flower type. In comparison to 'GEDI TWO SAP', the new variety has a smaller diameter inflorescence with lighter bronze ray florets. The new variety is also taller and blooms approximately 3 weeks earlier than 'GEDI TWO SAP.'

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPH

The photograph shows a plant of 'GEDI TWO KIS.' One cutting was planted in a two-gallon container in May. The plant was grown outdoors in Oxnard, CA.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

In the following description, color references are made to the Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart except where general terms of ordinary dictionary significance are used. The following observations and measurements describe 110 day old plants grown in Oxnard, California, during the month of September. Light conditions were bright, and no artificial shading was used. The humidity was low and no rainfall occurred. The growing temperature ranged from 15°C to 21°C at night, with day temperatures ranging from 19°C to 32°C. Measurements and numerical values represent averages of typical flowering types.

Botanical classification: *Chrysanthemum morifolium* cultivar 'GEDI TWO KIS'

Commercial classification: Garden-type Chrysanthemum

PROPAGATION

Time to Rooting: Approximately 7 to 14 days at approximately 21°C

Root Description: Fine, fibrous

PLANT

Growth Habit: Mounding herbaceous perennial

Height: Approximately 33 cm

Plant Spread: Approximately 52 cm

Growth Rate: Moderate

Branching Characteristics: Free branching

Length of Lateral Branches: Approximately 31 cm

Number of Leaves per Lateral Branch: Approximately 65

Age of Plant Described: Approximately 110 days

FOLIAGE

Leaf:

Arrangement: Alternate

Average length: Approximately 3.4 cm

Average width: Approximately 1.9 cm

Shape of blade: Ovate

Apex: Cuspidate

Base: Attenuate

Attachment: Stalked

Margin: Palmately lobed

Texture of top surface: Lightly pubescent

Texture of bottom surface: Lightly pubescent

Color:

young foliage upper side: Near Green 137B

young foliage under side: Near Green 138A

mature foliage upper side: Near Green 137A

mature foliage under side: Near Yellow-green 147B

venation upper side: Near Green 137D

venation under side: Near Yellow-green 147C

venation type: Net

Petiole:

Average length: Approximately 1.2 cm

Color: Near Green 137A

Diameter: Approximately 2 mm

Internode length: Approximately 2.3 cm

BLOOM

Inflorescence:

Flowering habit: induced by darkness period greater than about 13.5 hours, approximately 46 days of appropriate day length required to induce and develop blooms.

Inflorescence form: Decorative

Flower fragrance: Not present

Natural flowering season: Natural flowering begins between September 15 and September 25 in Southern California.

Number of inflorescences per lateral branch: Approximately 54

Inflorescence diameter: Approximately 3 cm

Inflorescence depth: Approximately 1.1 cm

Inflorescence longevity on plant: Approximately 24 days

Persistence: Persistent

Ray Florets:

Appearance: Matte

Texture: Smooth

Average number per flower: Approximately 162

Shape: Oblong

Aspect: Flat

Margin: Entire

Apex: Retuse

Length: Approximately 1.4 cm

Width: Approximately 5 mm

Color:

upper surface at first opening: Near Yellow-orange 22C

upper surface at maturity: Near Yellow-orange 19B

upper surface at fading: Near Yellow-orange 18B

under surface at first opening: Near Yellow-orange 19C

under surface at maturity: Near Yellow-orange 19C

under surface at fading: Near Yellow-orange 18C

Disc florets:

Appearance: Matte

Texture: Smooth

Average number per flower: Approximately 9

Shape: Cylindric

Apex: Obtuse

Average Length: Approximately 5 mm

Average Width: Approximately 1 mm

Color:

At first opening: Near Yellow 9C

At maturity: Near Yellow-orange 14B

At fading: Near Yellow 13B

Peduncle:

Length:

at terminal end (shortest): Approximately 4.2 cm

at lateral end (longest): Approximately 12 cm

Angle to stem: Acute

Strength: Moderate

Color: Near Yellow-green 146A

Habit: Upright

Diameter: Approximately 2 mm

Texture: Lightly pubescent

Inflorescence bud:

Length: Approximately 7 mm

Diameter: Approximately 8 mm

Form: Globular

Color: Near Orange 26C

Phyllaries (Involucral bracts):

Appearance: Matte

Texture: Lightly pubescent

Number: Approximately 83 throughout the inflorescence

Shape: Oblanceolate

Margin: Entire

Apex: Acute

Length: Approximately 8 mm

Width: Approximately 3 mm

Color:

upper side: Near Green 143A

under side: Near Green 143A

REPRODUCTIVE ORGANS

Ray Florets:

Number of pistils per floret: 1

Stigma shape: 2 branched

Stigma color: Near Yellow 9C

Style color: Near Yellow-green 154D

Style length: Approximately 5 mm

Stamens: Absent

Disc Florets:

Number of pistils per floret: 1

Stigma Shape: 2 branched

Stigma color: Near Yellow-orange 14B

Style length: Approximately 6 mm

Style color: Near Yellow-green 154D

Number of stamens per floret: Approximately 5

Anther shape: Tubular

Anther color: Near Yellow-orange 14A

Pollen color: No pollen detected

OTHER CHARACTERISTICS

Seed Production:

Commercially, this plant is not used or observed in a stage wherein seeds would be produced. Therefore, seed production has not been observed.

Disease Resistance: Neither resistance nor susceptibility has been observed.

Drought Tolerance and Cold Tolerance: Neither resistance nor susceptibility has been observed.